



# Agriculture Across Michigan

## USDA to Gauge Farmland Ownership and Farm Economics

The United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will begin surveying farmland owners to measure financial impacts and challenges of land ownership. Landowners should have received questionnaires in the mail in late December or early January called, "Tenure, Ownership, and Transition of Agricultural Land (TOTAL).

"The recent Census of Agriculture counted more than 4,000,000 acres of land that were rented or leased in Michigan, but it has been more than a decade since we spoke to landowners themselves," said Jay Johnson, director of the USDA/NASS-Great Lakes Region. "I hope all who receive TOTAL surveys will respond to help update landownership information." The data will ensure that all decisions impacting Michigan farmland is based on accurate information that comes directly from the source.

TOTAL is a part of the Census of Agriculture program, which means response to this survey is mandatory. The TOTAL survey program will collect data from both farm operators and landlords who are not farm operators to create a complete picture of farm costs, land ownership, demographics about farm operators and landlords,

improvements made to farmland and buildings, among other characteristics. More than 80,000 farmland owners and producers across the United States will receive TOTAL questionnaires including 1,783 in Michigan.

"This survey is lengthy and we realize some producers and landowners may have questions or need clarification," explained Johnson. "In February or March, our interviewers will begin reaching out to those producers and landowners who have not yet responded to answer any questions they may have and help them complete their questionnaires." In addition to accurate data, NASS is strongly committed to confidentiality. Information produced by respondents is confidential by law. The agency safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring no individual respondent or operation can be identified.

NASS will publish results of the TOTAL survey in its Quick Stats database in August 2015. Quick Stats is available online at [quickstats.nass.usda.gov](http://quickstats.nass.usda.gov). NASS will also publish the economic data gathered in the annual *Farm Production Expenditures* report on August 4, 2015. All NASS reports are available online at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

## Vegetable Summary 2014

Michigan produced 8.15 million hundredweight (cwt) of fresh market vegetables in 2014; a 2 percent increase from 2013. This included the dual purpose crops of asparagus, celery, bell peppers, pumpkins, and squash. The value of fresh market vegetables, at the farm level, was \$174 million, down 7 percent from the revised 2013 total. Despite the decrease in production, Michigan maintained its ranking as the eighth largest state in the value of fresh market vegetables for 2014.

## 2015 Release Schedule for 2014 County Estimates

Commodity	Anticipated Release Date
Oats	December 11, 2014
Winter Wheat	December 11, 2014
Corn for Grain	February 19, 2015
Soybeans	February 19, 2015
Dry Edible Beans	April 23, 2015
Sugar Beets	July 23, 2015
Cattle & Calves	May 11, 2015

## Michigan Cattle Inventory

All cattle and calves in Michigan as of January 1, 2015 were 1,140 thousand head, up 1 percent from last year. Michigan highlights from the January 1 report follow:

- Beef cow numbers decreased 6 percent to 112,000. Beef replacement heifers decreased 21 percent to 23,000 head.

- Milk cows increased 6 percent to 403,000 head. Heifers for milk cow replacement increased 2 percent to 167,000 head.
- The 2014 calf crop was 395,000 head, unchanged from 2013.

### Cattle inventory, January 1, 2014-15

Class	Michigan		United States	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
All cattle and calves	1,130	1,140	88,526	89,800
Cows	500	515	38,293	39,000
Beef	119	112	29,085	29,693
Milk	381	403	9,208	9,307
Replacement heifers	240	230	18,969	19,240
Beef	29	23	5,551	5,777
Milk	164	167	4,549	4,615
Other	47	40	8,869	8,847
Steers 500 pounds and over	175	175	15,668	15,779
Bulls 500 pounds and over	15	15	2,038	2,104
Calves under 500 pounds	200	205	13,558	13,677
Cattle on feed	150	160	13,018	13,093

## December Agricultural Prices

Prices received by Michigan farmers for the full month of December 2014 are listed in the table below. Some Michigan highlights were: December corn, at \$3.63 per bushel, increased \$0.06 from November and decreased \$0.40 from last year; December soybeans, at \$10.10 per bushel, was

unchanged from last month and decreased \$2.90 from last year; December wheat, at \$6.11 per bushel, increased \$0.46 from November and decreased \$0.26 from last year; December milk, at \$20.50 per cwt., decreased \$2.50 from last month, and decreased \$1.60 from last year.

### Prices Received by Farmers<sup>1</sup>, December 2014

Commodity	Michigan			United States		
	Dec 2013	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Dec 2013	Nov 2014	Dec 2014
Beans, dry edible.....dollars/cwt	42.70	33.90	38.10	39.80	30.50	34.00
Corn.....dollars/bu	4.03	3.57	3.63	4.41	3.58	3.78
Hay, alfalfa .....dollars/ton	180.00	185.00	180.00	186.00	184.00	183.00
Hay, other.....dollars/ton	145.00	140.00	140.00	133.00	124.00	117.00
Oats.....dollars/bu	2.82	3.27	(D)	3.59	2.96	3.20
Potatoes .....dollars/cwt	11.90	(D)	(D)	9.02	7.99	8.64
Soybeans .....dollars/bu	13.00	10.10	10.10	13.00	10.20	10.30
Wheat, winter .....dollars/bu	6.37	5.65	6.11	6.84	5.86	6.15
Milk, all .....dollars/cwt	22.10	23.00	20.50	22.00	23.00	20.40

<sup>1</sup> Entire month weighted average price.

(D) Withheld to avoid disclosing data for individual operations.

## Sheep and Goat Inventory

All sheep and lamb inventory in Michigan on January 1, 2015, was estimated at 76,000 head, a decrease of 6.2 percent from 2014. Breeding sheep inventory, at 55,000 head, was down 4,000 from last year. Market sheep and lambs totaled 21,000 head, a decrease of 1,000 from last year. The 2014 Michigan lamb crop was 60,000 head, down 3,000 from the previous year.

The number of sheep and lambs shorn, 63,000 head, was down 2,000 from the previous year. Shorn wool production in 2014 was 380,000 pounds, down 5 percent from 2013. The average price paid for wool was \$0.86 per pound, an increase of 1 cent from the previous year. The total value of wool was \$327,000, 4 percent below the 2013 value.

As of January 1, 2015, there were 11,300 milk goats in Michigan, down 100 from a year earlier. The Michigan meat and other goat inventory estimates have been discontinued.

### Goat inventory, January 1, 2014-15

Class	Michigan		United States	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Angora	(NA)	(NA)	148	160
Milk	11.4	11.3	358	365
Meat and other	16.5	(NA)	2,105	2,150

<sup>1</sup> (NA) Not Available

### Sheep inventory, January 1, 2014-15

Class	Michigan		United States	
	2014	2015	2014	2015
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
All sheep and lambs	81	76	5,245	5,280
Breeding sheep and lambs	59	55	3,900	3,935
Ewes	43	40	3,090	3,110
Rams	3	3	175	175
Replacement lambs	13	12	635	650
Total market sheep and lambs	22	21	1,345	1,345
Previous year's lamb crop	63	60	3,370	3,440

## Chickens and Eggs

All layers in Michigan totaled 13.1 million during December, up nearly 2 percent from a year ago. Egg production totaled 333 million eggs, up almost 4 percent from last year. The rate of lay during December was 2,545 eggs per 100 layers. On January 1 in the East North Central Region, which includes Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and

Wisconsin, there were 9.1 million egg-type eggs in incubators, up 3 percent from a year earlier. In the same region, there were 14.2 million broiler-type eggs in incubators, up 2 percent from the previous year. There were 24.7 million turkey poults hatched in the U.S. in December, up 12 percent from the previous year.

### Egg and Hatchery Production, December 2014

Item	Unit	2013	2014	Percent Change
<b>Michigan</b>				
All layers	Thou	12,884	13,084	2
Eggs per hundred layers	Num	2,491	2,545	2
Eggs produced	Mil	321	333	4
<b>East North Central Region</b>				
Eggs in incubators, Jan 1				
Egg-type	Thou	8,882	9,126	3
Broiler type	Thou	13,861	14,175	2
<b>U.S.</b>				
All Layers	Thou	356,527	362,035	2
Eggs per hundred layers	Num	2,352	2,384	1
Eggs produced	Mil	8,387	8,632	3
Turkey Eggs in incubators, Jan 1	Thou	27,299	29,291	7
Turkey Poults hatched, Dec	Thou	22,085	24,660	12

## December Milk Production

Dairy herds in Michigan produced 828 million pounds of milk during December, up 7.8 percent from a December 2013. The daily rate per cow was 66.5 pounds, up 1.3 pounds from December 2013. The dairy herd was estimated at 402,000 head for December, up 22,000 head from a year earlier. The average price of milk sold in December by Michigan dairy producers was \$20.50 per cwt., \$1.60 less than the price in December 2013.

## Michigan Dairy Summary, December 2014

Item		2012	2013	2014
Cows	1,000 Hd	377	380	402
Milk per cow	Lb/day	65.3	65.2	66.5
Production	Mil lbs	763	768	828
Milk price, all	Dol/cwt	21.50	22.10	20.50
Fat test	Pct	3.77	3.85	3.83
Protein <sup>1</sup>	Pct	3.15	3.21	3.17

<sup>1</sup> FMO 33

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## Thank You to our Data Providers

The USDA, NASS, Great Lakes Region and enumerator staff are pleased to provide you and the Michigan agricultural industry with current, reliable information as summarized in the following articles. This service is possible because you and other respondents provided us with timely survey responses. Thank you!